

REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to amend the claims to remove the numeral references therein and to remove multiple dependencies in claims 6, 10 and 14, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination and reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Also, the abstract has been amended in order to remove the reference numerals therein. The changes to the abstract are submitted in the form of a substitute abstract. A copy of the abstract with changes marked therein is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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ABSTRACT

A component placing head ~~(100)~~ provided with spline shafts ~~(11)~~, which are each elevatably supported by two spline nuts ~~(12, 13)~~, is provided with a
5 cylindrical member ~~(14, 15, 16)~~ that is fixed to the outer peripheral portions of the spline nuts and joins the spline nuts to each other to put the same into an integrated state. Further, the cylindrical member is rotatably supported on a head frame ~~(40)~~ via two bearing sections, reducing the amount of the bearing sections to be provided. With this arrangement, high-accuracy component
10 placement and downsizing of the component placing head can be achieved.

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